

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 01123 100853Z  
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

DODE-00 /039 W

-----051509 110237Z /73

R 100755Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9626  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 1123

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF, VM, SN  
SUBJECT: TWO VIETNAMESE RESCUED BY S.S. GATEWAY CITY RETURN TO  
VIETNAM

REF: SINGAPORE 997

1. IN MARCH 9 CONVERSATION WITH SINGAPORE IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL, EMBOFF LEARNED THAT THE TWO VIETNAMESE CITED REFTEL (WHO WERE RESCUED BY THE S.S. GATEWAY CITY AND WHO SUBSEQUENTLY REQUESTED REPATRIATION) HAD LEFT SINGAPORE FOR VIETNAM. SRV TRADE REPRESENTATIVE HERE REPORTEDLY ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION FOR THESE INDIVIDUALS BY A VIETNAMESE MERCHANT VESSEL THAT CALLED AT SINGAPORE ON MARCH 5. BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE, THE TWO VIETNAMESE SIGNED STATEMENTS THAT THEIR DECISION TO RETURN HOME WAS COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY.

2. GIVEN UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE'S PESSIMISM THAT SRV WOULD APPROVE THEIR REPATRIATION BASED ON ITS PREVIOUS RECORD, WE ARE RATHER SURPRISED THAT THE MATTER WAS RESOLVED SO EXPEDITIOUSLY. THAT SRV RESPONDED QUICKLY TO REPATRIATION REQUEST PROBABLY REFLECTS-- ALBEIT IN A SMALL MEASURE --VIETNAMESE DESIRE TO

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PAGE 02 SINGAP 01123 100853Z

IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH SINGAPORE AFTER THE CHILL THAT DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES FOLLOWING THE OCTOBER HIJACKING OF AN AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT.

3. REFUGEE STATUS REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MARCH 10 WILL DELETE THESE TWO PERSONS FROM THE COMMULATIVE BOAT CASE ARRIVAL FIGURE.  
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPATRIATION, SEA RESCUES, GATEWAY CITY S/S  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SINGAP01123  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780109-0083  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 SINGAPORE 997  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3371663  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TWO VIETNAMESE RESCUED BY S.S. GATEWAY CITY RETURN TO VIETNAM  
**TAGS:** SREF, VM, SN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014